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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/614,894	KANG ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Joseph P. Martinez	2873	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5-20-05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 8-10, 12-16, 19-21, 23-26 and 28-60.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>4-29-05</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8-10, 12-16, 19-21, 23-26 and 28-60 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art taken alone or in combination fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the limitations of the claims, in such a manner that a rejection under 35 USC 102 or 103 would be proper. The prior art fails to teach a combination of all the claimed features as presented in independent claims 8, 12, 15, 16, 19, 23, 24, 28, 30, 31, 33, 35, 43, 50, 57 and 59.

Specifically regarding claims 8 and 19, Itsumi et al. (5101278) teaches the state of the art of a driving device for transporting a lens.

But, Itsumi et al. fails to explicitly teach a weight of a predetermined mass attached to a second end of the piezoelectric driving means opposite to the first end, as claimed.

Specifically regarding claims 12 and 24, Itsumi et al. (5101278) teaches the state of the art of a driving device for transporting a lens.

But, Itsumi et al. fails to explicitly teach guide means extended through the lens in a position adjacent to the periphery of the lens, as claimed.

Specifically regarding claims 15 and 23, Itsumi et al. (5101278) teaches the state of the art of a driving device for transporting a lens.

But, Itsumi et al. fails to explicitly teach elastic means for enabling elastic contact between the lens and the guide means to provide the lens and the guide means with an interactive force proportional to an elastic force, as claimed.

Specifically regarding claims 16 and 30, Itsumi et al. (5101278) teaches the state of the art of a driving device for transporting a lens.

But, Itsumi et al. fails to explicitly teach absolute values of the supply voltage per time fed to the piezoelectric element are different from each other before and after a peak, as claimed.

Specifically regarding claim 28, Itsumi et al. (5101278) teaches the state of the art of a driving device for transporting a lens.

But, Itsumi et al. fails to explicitly teach the lens has at least one segment projected radially from the periphery of the lens, and wherein the external frame has a recess formed along a route of the lens for receiving the projected segment, as claimed.

Specifically regarding claims 31 and 57, Itsumi et al. (5101278) teaches the state of the art of a driving device for transporting a lens.

But, Itsumi et al. fails to explicitly teach the method comprising the following steps of: (a) moving the second end of the driving means along a transport direction of the lens at a first velocity; and (b) restoring the driving means to original configuration at a second velocity faster than the first velocity of the second end of the driving means in

the step (a) to move the lens which is fixed with the first end of the driving means, as claimed.

Specifically regarding claims 33 and 59, Itsumi et al. (5101278) teaches the state of the art of a driving device for transporting a lens.

But, Itsumi et al. fails to explicitly teach the method comprising the following steps of: (a) moving the second end of the driving means along a transport direction of the lens at a first velocity; and (b) operating the driving means at a second velocity faster than the first velocity of the second end of the driving means in step (a) to move the lens, which is fixed to the first end of the driving means, along the transport direction of the lens beyond a position of the lens that will be achieved by restoration of the driving means to its original position; and (c) restoring the second end of the driving means to its original configuration, as claimed.

Specifically regarding claims 35 and 50, Itsumi et al. (5101278) teaches the state of the art of a driving device for transporting a lens.

But, Itsumi et al. fails to explicitly teach elastic means for enabling elastic contact between the lens and the guide means to provide the lens and the guide means with an interactive force proportional to an elastic force and a weight of a predetermined mass attached to a second end of the piezoelectric driving means opposite to the first end, as claimed.

Specifically regarding claim 43, Itsumi et al. (5101278) teaches the state of the art of a driving device for transporting a lens.

But, Itsumi et al. fails to explicitly teach guide means extended through the lens in a position adjacent to the periphery of the lens; elastic means for enabling elastic contact between the lens and the guide means to provide the lens and the guide means with an interactive force proportional to an elastic force and a weight of a predetermined mass attached to a second end of the piezoelectric driving means opposite to the first end, as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph P. Martinez whose telephone number is 571-272-2335. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Georgia Y. Epps can be reached on 571-272-2328. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2873

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JPM
6-3-05


Hung Xuan Dang
Primary Examiner